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RUSGA Vice President-elect Jenni Webb-Shearston (left), Chief Justice-elect Brandon Blessing and President-elect Gus Maxwell (right) at the RUSGA debates.
PHOTO BY Brett Stakelin

THE 'DYNASTY' OF RUSGA: LETTER TO THE EDITOR

BY NATE LANGE

As recent criticisms of RUSGA have pointed out, student government has fallen out of favor with many of the students it claims to represent. We are largely discontent and uninterested (as shown by the voter turnout this year and lack of a campaign by now-president Gus Maxwell, vice-president Jenni Shearston and Chief Justice Brandon Blessing).

Brandon, in his article "Letter of the Editor on the RUSGA Changing of the Guard," responds to a number of complaints brought about by students about the recent elections. I stake out my grounds to demonstrate why the author was flawed in his thinking and predictions of how and why non-RUSGA students act as we do.

The first part of my argument revolves around my discontent with Brandon's subtle idea that poor communication between RUSGA and non-RUSGA students could have facilitated such a deserted election. However, while I agree with his point that communication between RUSGA and the student body was a problem, I must confess that I do not believe that RUSGA tried its hardest to create the most supportive atmosphere to potential candidates, simply because it is true that three of the students elected – the only ones who ran – come from within the RUSGA.

This is deeply disturbing to me for a number of reasons, the first and foremost being RUSGA's obvious inability to advertise the election, as stated by Brandon himself. I feel that his "apology" for the lack of advertising was con-

tradictory to the nature of their campaign, and perhaps almost insulting. To me, the lack of a campaign by Gus, Jenni and Brandon symbolizes the irresponsibility of apologizing for the lack of communication. After all, if the three really wanted the students to hear about the elections, would it not be useful to at least mount a campaign for the election?

Naturally, the students involved in organizing the election were involved with RUSGA internally. This demonstrates that either RUSGA truly is disconnected from its students, or that it does not really do as much as Brandon claims it does in his article. But, after truly contemplating the situation, why exactly would the very people running for election want to do a good job of advertising the elections? It seems like by having students already involved in RUSGA setting up the elections, the elections are destined to be a failure. The organizers are the participants who are trying to be elected. To put it bluntly: why would the previously elected RUSGA government want to promote a challenge to their already pervasive powers?

It does not serve the interest of those who are in charge of the dynasty-like succession of RUSGA office politics to mention the election. I feel as if this isn't an issue of communication, but rather an issue of an advertising blackout from within RUSGA. If RUSGA is as effective at getting things done as Brandon claims, why can't they perform their most important duty?

My second response to Brandon's points about communication is that he

seems to place an unfair amount of blame between the lack of communication and the lack of challengers. Outgoing RUSGA president Will Gohl wrote in his article Uncontested Elections, "I struggle with my criticism of their choice not to campaign; they were going to win, and had nothing to prove."

This statement from our current president shows that the uncontested election had little to do with what communication (or lack thereof) was offered to the students – Brandon, Gus and Jenni, according to Will, were going to win, uncontested, which everyone knew. But did we really know?

Brandon, Gus and Jenni sure did. These three people, already in RUSGA, knew all the other people in RUSGA. Naturally, this leads to an advantage in communication for elections, knowing what is going on when. Being in RUSGA gives a striking advantage to those involved with RUSGA or who currently serve on the Executive Cabinet. Curiously, Will also writes, "[e]ven more abysmal is the election's voter turnout, a whopping 64 total students, or 4.2% of eligible voters, compared to around 400 total voters and 27% participation rate last year."

These statistics, I'm sorry to say, do not outline mere miscommunication, as Brandon seems to imply. These statistics outline students' rightful discontent with RUSGA, a government that Brandon himself originally thought of as "extremely cliquey and intimidating" about student elections.

See "RUSGA dissatisfaction" Page 4

The Regis financial report

BY EMILY SLOAN

Most newspapers and television newsrooms are continuously reporting about the economy. The big news is still the recession and the effects the contraction is having on many people. This is old news to many, however, because most of middle class America and Americans in poverty are still feeling the reverberating effects of the collapses in the housing and financial markets, which have yet to recover.

There are many economists who have said, and are supported by statistical evidence, that the recession is over. However, the markets are not recovering like past recessions, resulting in a jobless recovery. A jobless recovery is going to affect more people, especially those in the middle class, more than usual, and make paying for important needs for themselves and their children more difficult without income.

While the middle class and individuals are tightening their belts, so are companies and institutions like our own university. When the financial markets on Wall Street became crippled, limited lending and required governmental bailouts, Regis recognized that its finances needed to be addressed to weather through the storm. The University enacted certain policies to help the institution and its students. These policies helped Regis end this financial year in a relatively strong position that allows for more growth and financial security to sustain through a shaky recovery.

When Regis's fiscal year ended on April 30 last year, the country was still in a recession; thus, the University put in place measures to help guide Regis during tough markets. The recession ended in June 2009, according to *The Economist*, but there was slow enough growth to warrant the continuation of the policies established during the recession.

One important goal was to build up the University's financial reserves since they were hurt by what was happening on Wall Street.

The second goal of the budget was to provide enough financial aid to students and their families who were feeling the consequences of the markets volatility and credit crunch.

Lastly, a main focus of the budget was to create an emergency fund for students who were in extreme financial distress. This is only a temporary fund that will expire later, however.

To fund these three goals of the budget and the everyday costs associated with the University, departments were asked to be thriftier, and RUSGA donated ten thousand dollars to the Emergency Fund. In addition, there were no raises for Regis employees.

See "Tuition increases" Page 2

Tuition increases smaller than usual

(continued from Front Page)

Tom Reynolds and Paul Bocker, who work in the President's Office, report that the offices were able to keep within budget to help the University. "The University had a good time in a tough year," Bocker said.

As a result of cost saving initiatives last year, the University will be starting its fiscal year in a stable, good position that will help sustain the University. The budget for the coming year will be similar to this past year's budget with some slight changes. Employees will be getting a raise to help them and their families during the recovery. The Emergency Fund and financial aid will also be stay in the budget because this

recovery is a jobless recovery. This means many of the students' parents may have a continually difficult time finding employment.

There are also necessary repairs that need to be made like fixing some of the sidewalks and improving classroom technology. In addition, the fitness center is going to be receiving one hundred thousand dollars worth of new, updated equipment since some of the current equipment is of poor quality after years of use.

The final change to the budget is that tuition will be going up two percent instead of the usual 5 percent. The University needs more funds but is also taking into account how slowly the job market is recovering.

The financial report is compiled by

BKD accounting, and the final numbers for the 2009-2010 year will be documented by BKD during this summer. If students are interested in last year's budget report, they can talk to the Chief Financial Officer.

Reynolds also said that Sean Mulligan, Director of Finance for RUSGA, is another resource. He has worked closely with those in charge of the budget.

Overall, though, Regis appears to be in a good financial position to start a new fiscal year, even though saving and thriftiness are still necessary for the University, just as other institutions and individuals are forced to save and watch their budgets.

Ten things seniors are thankful for at Regis

BY LUKE CURTIS

Two weeks until school is over. Wow. I still can't wrap my mind around it. It feels like a week ago I was just moving off campus my junior year. A week before that, I was getting situated in West Hall. Only a month ago, it feels like I was with my parents moving into Desmet. If I remember anything from my years taking Latin in high school, it's this: Tempus Fugit. Time Flies.

As seniors prepare to graduate and transition into the next stage of life, many can't help but reflect upon what Regis University has meant to them. The good, the bad, everything. After talking to a range of seniors about their time at Regis, I've developed a list of the top ten things most seniors will miss about their college experience:

1. *The Hypnotist*: Jim Wand is always the most sought after entertainer of the year. What can we say: we love to see Regis students making fools of themselves!

2. *The Quad*: Even though the majority of the year is too cold to enjoy the Quad, whenever the temperature is about 65 degrees, Regis students flock to the quad like salmon of the Capistrano. Whether it's lounging about, playing frisbee, listening to some music, enjoying free food or just enjoying the weather—the Quad always has provided a nice area to for students to enjoy themselves.

3. *Snow Days*: At least for me, I'd never had a snow day (or snow, for that matter) until I came to Regis. I'll always remember the hours of playing in the snow in front of Desmet with my friends, and the subsequent hypother-



Craig Hale (right) and Angela Mendez (left) performing the Regis Ramblers' 2008 production of "Annie Get Your Gun."

PHOTO BY Brett Stakelin

mia. Hey, it was worth it!

4. *Faculty and Staff*: Regis has some of the best faculty and staff I've come across in a long time. Almost every teacher I've had has been helpful and kind. The staff has been excellent too. Physical Plant are the nicest individuals I've met in a long time. Everyone at Regis cares about the students and their experience here. So, faculty and staff, my hat is off in thanks to you and your efforts: we appreciate it!

5. *Friends*: Without friends, college is all for naught. They make up the bread and butter of your four years at school, and they're there in the best and worst of times. I'm going to cherish so many friendships from Regis for the rest of my life.

6. *Chuck Norris Jokes*: Let's face it, Dave Law's emails are great. Besides keeping everyone in the know each week, the never-ending Chuck Norris jokes are always good for a laugh and I'll always remember them whenever I tried to figure out the schedule for the week. Thanks, Dave.

7. *Thursday Thrills*: I had to put Jim Wand in his own separate category because he's that good, but Thursday Thrills in general have been a great way to entertain students and provide some relaxation amid hectic coursework. Getting together on Thursdays with friends to enjoy a comedian or dance was always enjoyable, and I hope it continues in the future.

8. *Ranger Week*: The best week on campus, some may say. A week filled with fun activities and community. Students I didn't know even attended Regis come out of their dorm rooms to enjoy what Ranger Week has to offer, and that in itself speaks to how great Ranger Week. Culminating in Ranger Day, it's a fun time to enjoy with

friends. I'll never forget all the activities throughout Ranger Week; it's been a blast every year.

9. *RUSGA*: I feel like I have to put this in here or else my house might be targeted with organic produce and recyclable toilet paper. RUSGA has always been a helpful force across campus that provides so many of the activities listed above. Thanks.

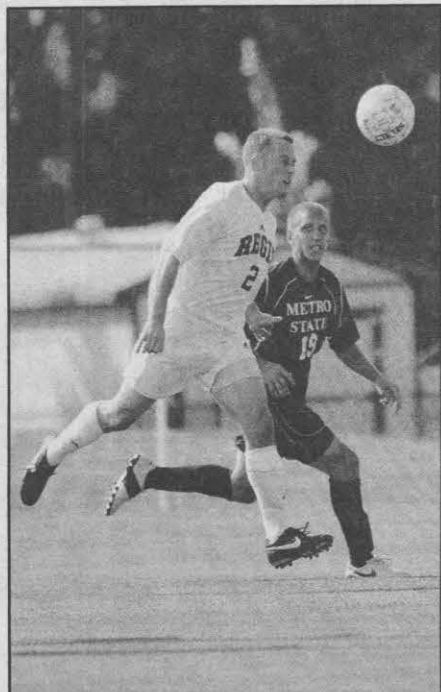


Professor Ron DiSanto

PHOTO BY David Ordway

10. *Sports*: While I didn't play a sport in college, the fact is that this signifies the end of most sports careers for many. I swear I'm not being pessimistic, just realistic. I'm sure many athletes will miss the great times they had with teammates and coaches, enjoying stomping other schools or rather getting stomped on by other schools. Either way, it's a fun time that's about to come to a close.

To the seniors, I hope this list did some justice to your experience at Regis over the last four years. To underclassman, I hope you can really enjoy your time here at Regis. Make sure to live deliberately so to not let this short time go by so quickly. You only get to go to college once; make the best of it. It really will be over before you know it, so make sure to enjoy it fully and completely!



Regis men's soccer vs. Metro State

PHOTO BY Brett Stakelin

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SPORTS

TUESDAY APRIL 27, 2010-3

Ending a mixed season, Women's Lacrosse closes season strong

BY KATIE KING

The Rangers Women's Lacrosse team ended a tough season 3-7. Their record, though, is not indicative of the hard work and battling they've fought through this spring. They lost three games by less than three goals in the final minutes of play—losses that, in a ten game season, are the difference between a winning season record and a losing one.

Reflecting on the results of 2009-2010 season, assistant coach Beth Calder said, "I do not think that our record reflects the work that this team did this year. The girls worked really hard and made huge improvements all over the field. We played with some great teams and I see big things for this group next year."

The team had a solid start to the season, winning three of their four exhibition games leading up to a season opener loss (12-11) to one of the Carolinas' top-ranked teams, Queens University of Charlotte (No. 4*). They fell 23-7 against their next opponent, South Carolina's Limestone College who are ranked No. 1* in the Carolinas and nationally ranked at No. 4. In their third straight loss of the season, they fell again to No. 2* Pfeiffer University, 16-5.

After a tough three-game losing streak, Regis women's lacrosse battled their

way through their fourth game in seven days against No. 7 Less-McRae College and brought home their first victory of the season, defeating the Bobcats 17-5.

At the midway point in the season, the Rangers took on rival Colorado College in an intense game that ended in a 12-11 loss when CC scored the final goal of the game with three and a half minutes remaining in play.

Next, the girls traveled to Durango to take on Fort Lewis and look to even the score against Colorado College. They went 1-1 over the weekend, crushing Fort Lewis 18-3 and losing in a heart breaking overtime match against CC, 14-11.

Returning from their Durango trip, the team was 2-5 with three games left in the season and three more tough games ahead. The first was DI, UC Davis, who turned out to be too much to handle and easily defeated the Rangers 18-3.

Next was a great battle against Rollins College of Florida. Though the Rangers eventually lost 18-10, Coach Calder was proud of the way the team performed in one of the more memorable games for her.

"The [game] that stands out most was the way we played the first half against Rollins," the coach said. "We played fearlessly and took on a very talented team and gave them a run for

their money. Next year with fresh legs on the sideline, the scoreboard will tell a different story."

In their final match of the season, the Rangers went out in style, crushing Fort Lewis 17-0. For senior goalkeeper Brittany Farniok, the colossal beat-down of Fort Lewis was her last game as a Ranger. She played and started in all ten games this season, allowing 99 goals on the season and ending with a .396 save percentage.

"[Farniok] is a totally awesome kid," praised Coach Calder. "She has come so far since her freshman year and she is mature beyond her years. I wish her the best of luck in the next chapter of her life and I think the girls can remember the quiet tenacity that Brittany had and the big game player that she was and they can honor her by bringing that to the field next season."

Although the season showed a less than formidable record, the individual accomplishments mark another milestone in the career of each player. On the attacking end of the field, Junior Kelsi Goings had a team-high 22 goals on the season, while Sophomore AriAnna McDonald racked up 17 goals and 29 ground balls.

Sophomore Erin Dybus earned 7 assists on the season and freshman Margaret Nahrup finished out with 24 draw controls. Defensively, sophomore Carly Wagner and freshman Jessica

Carlstrom tied for most caused turnovers with 10 a piece.

As for the rest of the returning team, they are taking the lessons they learned from this season into next year. With a majority of the team returning and only one loss to graduation, in addition to the arrival of a new group of freshman, the Rangers have high hopes for the success of their team next season.

Calder's goals, the coach said, "[A]re much the same as they always are: to continue to improve and get better every day. We have a solid core of girls returning so I would love for the returning players to teach our newbies [sic] what they have learned this year, how to push each other and get comfortable being uncomfortable. I think next year will be a great for the Regis lacrosse program. We have tremendous lessons from this year, an experienced core of returning players and a talented group of freshman joining our squad."

As quickly as the lacrosse season has come to end, so has the 2009-2010 school year. A big thanks goes out to all you Regis students and staff who took the time to come out and support the lacrosse team through this past year, and an even bigger thanks to the Women's Lacrosse team for working hard and making the Regis community proud. Good luck next season!

Rangers Softball season in review; final games this weekend

BY KATIE KING

The 2009-2010 Women's Softball season is almost at its end. With just two, four game series left, the Rangers, (15-23 overall, 12-20 in conference), have only UCCS and Colorado Mines left to defeat this season. The results of this past weekend's match up with UCCS will be posted on the Regis Athletics website, www.registrants.com, but in the last games of their season, the Rangers will take on Mines at home on May 1 at 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. and May 2 at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Their season started back in February and it has been non-stop softball since then. In their first weekend of games, they split their series against Fort Hays St and Emporia St., followed by another split against CSU Pueblo the following week.

A tough two weeks in late February

saw a four game losing streak to rival Metro St. followed by a weekend series against Adams St., where they split on the first day of games and lost both on the second.

In a rough patch in the middle of the season, March 13-21 recorded the result of an eight game losing streak courtesy of CSU Pueblo and Fort Lewis.

But the Rangers worked hard to get back on the winning track, splitting their four game series with Mesa St., followed by a four game winning streak in their series against Neb. Kearney in the first weekend of April.

The weekend of April 10-11 split once again as Chadron State took the victory of the first two games in the series and the Rangers won the final two. In their next series down at Western NM, the Rangers split once again, winning 5-1 on April 17 and losing a close one 4-3 on April 18.

On deck in the schedule line-up was New Mexico Highlands and as the Rangers swept the two game series, starting catcher, Junior Alisa Heronema recorded a new all-time hits record with 245 hits in her career here at Regis.

Heronema has the top batting average on the team so far with .458, and also takes the number one spot under the categories of: On base percentage (.514), runs scored (32), hits (245), triples (4), stolen bases (16) and stolen bases percentage, stealing 16 of the 20 attempted.

Sophomore pitcher Nikki Haberkorn also tops a few categories including being one of three leading pitchers, slugging percentage (.655), runs batted in (37), and home runs (11). Haberkorn is also tied with teammates Junior pitcher Bianca Holley and Senior catcher Mo McDaniel with 6 doubles this season.

Holley is the top pitcher this season, averaging a team high 5 innings per game and booking the highest win-loss percentage, wins, strike-outs, and strike-outs with the batter out looking. Other impressive statistics include outfielder/pitcher Sophomore Natalie Adami's .340 batting average followed closely by Freshman outfielder Shannon Messine (.336), who also holds the team record for sacrifice bunts with 10 on the season with McDaniel placing fourth in the top batting averages with .308.

The Rangers have their final games this weekend verses Mines at home on Saturday, May 1 (12 & 2) and Sunday, May 2 (11 & 1). Take a break from studying for finals sometime and drop by the softball field to let out some of that pent-up stress cheering on your Rangers!

Baseball wraps up a long season, bids farewell to seniors

BY KATIE KING

Regis's baseball team is 13-23 overall and 9-18 in the conference with only two three-game series left against Colorado Mines and Nebraska-Kearney. The results of the Mines games will be posted on the Regis Athletics website from this past weekend at registrants.com. This weekend, the men head to Nebraska-Kearney for their final games of the season.

They had a bumpy start at the very beginning of the season in February, going 1-3 in their series against Grand Canyon, followed by two losses to Nebraska-Omaha at home. They climbed back from four straight losses with a 7-6 victory over CSU-Pueblo on Feb 26, but split their remaining games against the Thunderwolves, losing 7-2 then fighting back in game two to win 9-3.

In the first weekend of March,

Regis went 2-1 in their series against Mines at home, followed by a marginal victory against Metro State (12-3). They went on to win two more games in a row, beating Colorado Christian 12-6 at home and then winning the first game in the series against Nebraska-Kearney 9-7. They dropped the final two games of the series, but bounced back with another win against Metro.

Mid-March brought a bout of bad luck, with the Rangers losing six in a row—two verses Metro and four against Mesa State—where four games of the six were lost by one run.

The Rangers fought back in their final game of the three game series against Metro, winning 11-3. Next they took on Colorado Christian in a four game series, finishing with three wins and one loss.

And it seems that Mid-April has brought on another bout of bad luck

for the Rangers as they head into the final stretch of their season with seven straight losses, thanks to a 0-4 run against NM Highlands and a 0-3 run verses CSU-Pueblo.

On the bright side, many of the individual players are having great success. Senior and starting catcher Patrick Farrell leads the team on the season with the top batting average (.399), highest slugging percentage (.935), on base percentage (.465), runs scored (38), home runs (20), hits (55), runs batted in (54) and total bases (129).

Senior Jesus Arzaga, short stop, is having a good season as well, placing in the top-four batting averages with a .350, a very close second in runs scored (37), leading the team in triples and sacrifice bunts. Max Regalado, the senior right-fielder, has the second-best batting average in the season with .360 and leads his team in doubles.

Sophomore pitcher Charlie Henderson has been making his mark in his Regis career book, starting in 11 games and leading the team in win-loss percentage (.571), wins (4), innings pitched (72.2), batters struck out (45) and in batters struck out looking (17).

The Rangers will have nine seniors playing in these final games for Regis: Jesus Arzaga, Patrick Farrell, Anthony Musielak, Darren Chavez, Chris Steinbeck, Zach McBeth, Gerhard Mohrmann, J.T. Putt and Max Regalado. Best of luck to them in their final games as Rangers.

It's been a long season for the men's baseball team with a few bumps along the way, but we wish for the best as they travel out to Nebraska-Kearney to end the season with a series victory over the Lopers.

RUSGA dissatisfaction

(continued from Front Page)

When reading "Letter to the Editor on the RUSGA Changing of the Guard," I find Brandon's attitude to the RUSGA to be contradictory at best.

He states that RUSGA does play an undeniable role in the Regis community, which I do not disagree with. He outlines the importance of such a role with examples of recent events and responsibilities that RUSGA has

planned successfully.

However, when it comes to raising awareness about elections – arguably the most important task of RUSGA – it is obvious that RUSGA not only fell short, it's still falling. It seems, as

Brandon put it best, that you do "have to have a special invite to participate" in the elections.

Nate Lange is a junior in the Class of 2011.

Why we must rethink the War on Terror

BY MICHAEL DEGREGORI

It is well known today that the United States of America faces an unprecedented threat to its national security in the form of terrorist organizations such as al-Qaeda.

In an age where modern technology allows for a nuclear weapon small enough to fit in a suitcase, the threat of terrorism cannot be taken seriously enough.

However, as our country faces this new challenge presented by terrorism, it is important to realize that a terrorist group is in no way similar to an enemy state. While a terrorist network can present just as much of a threat as a rogue state, to act as if a terrorist group were an enemy state, and to treat the War on Terror as if it were an actual war, is to fundamentally misunderstand the type of threat our nation faces.

The United States has a lot of experience dealing with enemy states. During the Second World War we used sheer military might of ourselves and our allies to beat down the threat of fascist states attempting to become empires. Years later, when faced with

the threat of large-scale nuclear warfare with the Soviet Union, we used negotiation and the fear of mutually assured destruction as common ground to prevent a potentially world-ending confrontation.

We know how to deal with dangerous enemy states, through negotiation and, when that fails, large-scale warfare. While these methods were effective with dealing with the enemies our nation has faced in the past, it is becoming increasingly clear that these conventional methods lack the effectiveness needed against the terrorist threats of today.

It becomes clear why past methods are inadequate when one examines the major differences between the makeup of a terrorist group and a state, namely the vulnerabilities the latter has which the former lacks.

A state has an infrastructure and economy which can be disrupted and disabled. Trade can be shut down, roads blocked, communication centers destroyed.

A terrorist group lacks such weaknesses, as they have no responsibility to maintain the relative welfare of a massive population, as a state does. All

a terrorist group needs to survive is fighters who believe in their cause. In some cases, states can be negotiated with. A terrorist group has no interest in any meaningful negotiation, as any compromise or concession made by them would greatly damage the fanatical narrative they present.

If all else fails, as state can be invaded and overthrown. A terrorist group, however, can simply cross borders and operate in multiple nations at once, as we have observed in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Overthrowing nations in the name of "getting to the terrorists" is both costly and counterproductive. It does little more than create a destabilized environment in the region in which terrorist organizations thrive, and generates anger and ill-will that contributes to terrorist recruitment.

While we may eventually stabilize the region, as we have seen to a certain extent in Iraq and will hopefully see in the future in Afghanistan, we will each time find that our original target has already moved on and established base in another nation, making our temporary victory a hollow one. The simple fact of the matter is that our nation has

neither the resources nor the political will to be everywhere at once.

It is time to rethink how we are doing things. The problem is not too few soldiers or not enough firepower; it is that we are facing an enemy that is far more flexible and dispersed than previous threats we have faced. Fighting terrorist as if they were an enemy state is the equivalent of trying to fight a swarm of bees with a pistol: while not lacking in power, the method is clearly meant for a more concrete and identifiable target.

Instead of using our resources getting bogged down fighting the enemy in nations they are in no way constrained to, we should instead focus on working with the international community to find new methods of preventing unstable conditions that allow terrorist organizations to thrive and grow, on putting international pressure on uncooperative states with terrorists within their borders and on making use of limited military operations to quickly strike their leadership when vulnerable.

Letter to the Editor: What to do after Graduation?

BY JUSTIN LARZELERE

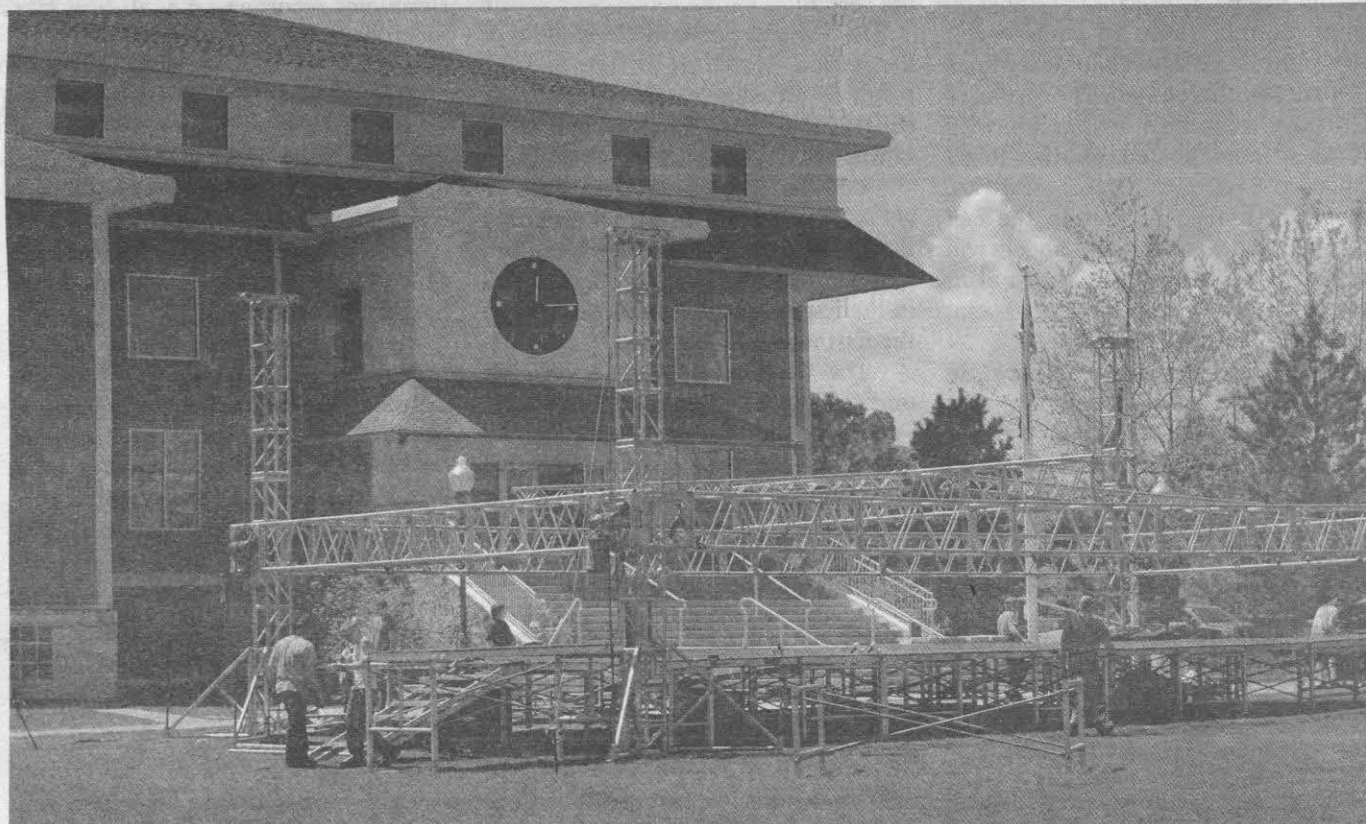
On the cusp of graduation day, I am left with a sensation that can only be described as bitter-sweet. I have fond memories of my tenure as a student, but I am filled with anticipation about taking my next step in the walk of life. As I look into the future and its vast realm of possibilities, I realize that I have mounted the four-year stepping stone, but I will soon be left languishing in the perilous job hunt.

For the past month, I have toiled at my computer and pounded the pavement, trying to find a job that spoke to me. The scope of my search extended well beyond the Colorado border. I conducted a resume carpet-bombing of the various economic consultancy firms as well as other jobs that grabbed my attention. Unwilling to settle, throughout my search, the alluring prospect of traveling abroad has hovered in the back of my mind.

There are several opportunities for traveling abroad, all of which I have considered at one point or another. Yet, having come from an economic background, I recognize that there are implicit trade-offs and considerations that need to be taken into account for any decision after college.

For me, one of the most prominent trade-offs concerns time. Realistically, the positions available abroad, such as the Peace Corps, and teaching, generally span a year or more. Though these opportunities open avenues for an extensive period of travel, an individual's career is subsequently put on hold. In a fast-moving society, this notion is a touchy subject. Between loans and making a sustainable living, life calls for some pragmatism.

Time is not on my side. At least, that is the mentality to which much of



Setting up the stage for the 2008-2009 graduation at Regis University.

PHOTO BY staff photographer

society has conformed. In contemporary society, there appears to be a latent guidebook, with instructions that college graduates maintain a specified course and march in step with other productive members of society. College is one of the many junctures along this artificially constructed path. One should ask oneself, is it necessary to follow this guidebook and conform to society's false expectations?

According to the *Occupational Outlook Quarterly*, the average person between 18 ages and 38 changes their career seven times throughout their life. Contrary to what voices of authority may say, few short-term decisions after college set an individual's future

in stone. With this in mind, we need to separate our personal aspirations from society's expectations.

In a nation that is obsessed with wealth, personal success has been equated with financial success. However, few people can say that they live to work. Rather, I suggest that people work so that they may live. As Carol Graham, a professor of public policy at the University of Maryland, writes, "Higher per capita income levels do not translate directly into higher average happiness levels."

Although some degree of wealth is necessary for self-preservation, wealth is only a means to an end. The value of wealth is in its ability to lead to our

true desires.

Though we live in foreboding times, everything is not as bleak as it seems. Life after college does not need to be shrouded by gloom and doom. The current economy simply suggests that people consider other opportunities. Though financial opportunities are scarce, opportunities that are personally fulfilling will always be in abundance. As Henry David Thoreau has said, "That man is richest whose pleasures are cheapest."

Justin Larzelere is a graduating senior in the Class of 2010.

When it comes to academic freedom, Regis is ahead of the pack

BY JIMMY SENGENBERGER

Father Michael Sheeran, S.J., is well aware of me and my personal conservative activism on campus. When the university's president arrived at my table, where my family and I were seated, at the Family Weekend breakfast back in September, he looked down at me, shook my hand and joked, "So, what evil are you up to today, Jimmy?"

With many campus presidents, that might be a signal of the kiss of death. But at Regis, that's not the case at all. In fact, this humorous greeting was playfully done with a smile on Father Sheeran's face, demonstrating the humor and lack of sincerity in the question. I know not where he stands politically, but I do know where his institution lies when it comes to academic freedom: 100% behind it.

I recently watched the film *Indoctrinate U*, an excellent, insightful documentary about the prominent left-wing, liberal bias on college campuses in America. The film explores the common practice among universities and colleges across the country—the so-called "safe-havens" of academic freedom—to shun or disadvantage expressions of conservative views on campus. This includes professors, students, faculty and staff.

Wikipedia defines academic freedom as "the belief that the freedom of inquiry by students...is essential to the mission of the academy, and that scholars should have freedom to teach or communicate ideas or facts...without being targeted for repression, job loss or imprisonment."

While there is, as most students seem to agree, a decidedly liberal slant amongst Regis faculty (a tendency for universities throughout the country), when it comes to student expression of views, Regis deserves a great deal of praise and credit for standing true to

this doctrine and following through with the principles therein. In doing so, they permit various views on political and religious issues to be expressed, including conservative perspectives, which are often discriminated against on the college campus.

I would like to cite my own personal experiences in my first two years here to underscore this, specifically my position on the Highlander, the weekly radio show I host and my status as President of the Regis College Republicans.

First, with regard to the Highlander, I take pride in helping to preside over a paper that welcomes the views of all students, regardless of ideology or viewpoint, to join the staff or submit letters to the editor. If you've been reading the paper and have noticed my consistent array of conservative-leaning articles over the last year, rest assured that this is not because I've brought some "right-wing bias" to the Highlander. It is because I choose most frequently to publish perspectives pieces, just as others have their favored sections.

Anyone can do it, and I strongly encourage more students and faculty alike to take advantage of the chance to submit articles of their own on virtually any issue, political or otherwise, when the paper reboots next semester.

But the critical point with the Highlander is this: Oftentimes, many conservative students are passed over from publishing political opinion pieces on a consistent basis due to their ideological standpoint; moreover, I have heard stories about quiet discrimination against conservatives in leadership positions at other colleges, or about students' difficulty in distributing papers on campus, even though the publication follows the rules (such as a recent Auraria campus case).

Not only have I not encountered

any problems with expressing my views on issues here at Regis—no one else has, either. At least, not since I've been here. This goes for all political persuasions, liberal, conservative, and otherwise.

Then there's my weekly radio show, Seng Center. Anyone who walks outside on the Quad between the hours of 6 and 8 on Thursday nights can't without hearing, for better or worse, my loud voice blaring across the Quad, talking about politics from a clearly conservative perspective. Moreover, it is the only radio show of its kind on KRCX (and in Colorado, to my knowledge), and it streams online as well. Thus, it indirectly but indiscreetly represents Regis.

Easily I could be censored, as happens on many colleges, to present a "preferred image." I could be denied the program because of some sense for an arbitrary need for greater "balance" (a sort-of "fairness doctrine" on campus) or restricted on what topics I can talk about, what guests I can bring on to the show, etc.

But I'm not. As long as the things I say and do on the program are appropriate—or, shall we say, "Father Sheeran Approved"—everything's okay, lest activities director Dave Law sick Chuck Norris on me. (God have mercy on my soul if that happens!)

Besides, just like with the Highlander, every student has an equal opportunity to share their views on subjects ranging from religion to politics to just about anything else. When a single complaint came in about my show, I was readily defended by the powers-that-be for that very reason—just as I should have been, under the principles of academic freedom.

College Republicans groups on campuses across the nation consistently face discrimination, and many have to jump through hoops for representa-

tion at club fairs, access to rooms on campus and other considerations.

Here at Regis, not only do the College Republicans feel confident in their ability as a club to freely carry out activities and host events—like the one first semester with radio talkshow host Mike Rosen and this semester with ex-jihadist Dr. Tawfik Hamid—but they are given the utmost support and assistance by student activities, RUSGA and the college at large. Every time help is needed or a question requires an answer, we got it with no problems or hesitations. Regrettably, many Republican clubs don't get that.

When I talk to most reasonable-minded people about this, they rightly reply, "Well, of course. Why shouldn't Regis allow students to speak their mind, irrespective of their ideology?"

I can't disagree with the implications of that statement at all; every college campus should be open to such ideas. But when you talk to conservative and Republican students at many other colleges in America, and when you talk to conservative college graduates (who think of CU's leftist ex-professor Ward Churchill), it really does matter a good deal.

To them, Regis is a diamond in the rough—and that's exactly why I think the university deserves much credit for truly standing behind the principles of "academic freedom."

No matter what your political or religious persuasion, you're welcome here at Regis. And even more importantly, you're welcome to express those views however you wish, so long as you do so respectfully and with the kind of analytical thought prescribed by a Jesuit education.

So the next time a Jesuit priest asks what evil you're up to, just reply, "No evil, Father. I'm just exercising my academic freedom." And for that, Regis is, to its credit, ahead of the pack.

Ranger Week gives way to Earth Week

BY ELIZABETH SLOAN

From April 26 to April 30, the RUSGA Sustainability Committee and Go Green Task Force are bringing you a week of fun and activities to celebrate Earth Week.

This week's events include tie dying, bike tune-ups and Ultimate Frisbee, to name a few. Along with fun activities, there will be food from local vendors such as Dubbel Dutch.

Gina Graziano, a Regis senior, had a big role in planning Earth Week. When asked what she hoped would

come out of this week, Graziano replied, "I hope our community will gain some fraction of a newfound appreciation for our Denver community and the entire environment."

Graziano helped organize most of the events, such as the conversation with the Denver Zoo.

Another hope for this week is that the Regis community becomes more sustainable. Graziano will be graduating in a few short weeks and will no longer be head of the Sustainability Committee, which is part of RUSGA. The new head of Sustainability will be

Lizzy Sepe.

Graziano feels that she is leaving the committee in good hands and hopes that Sepe will continue the work that she has been doing for the past few years.

When Graziano was a freshman, there was no recycling program in place at Regis. She said that Physical Plant was receptive to the starting of the new program.

In addition to Physical Plant's support, there was also great deal of backing from the student body. Graziano saw the beginning phases of the recycling program, how it changed and its present success.

Seeing how the recycling program succeeded and continues to grow, Graziano wants to leave the community with the lesson she learned from helping the recycling program grow.

"Find that thing you care about, and that you know will make Regis a better place, and go for it," she said. "Working through this process has shown me the best Regis has to offer."

RUSGA a driving force in campus life

BY BEN CLOSSON

About 1,500 students pay \$250 per year in Student Activities fees. A rough estimate is that RUSGA has a budget of nearly \$375,000 to work with. It is no wonder that 18 listed clubs are endorsed by RUSGA, as well as two on-campus media organizations (KRCX and the Highlander), more events and acronyms than the writer can keep track of, and an entire Student Activities office.

PAC is the Planning Activities Committee, which organizes Thursday Thrills and other student-funded and student-run activities. HAC is committed to Health Awareness on campus and among the Regis community.

SWAG stands for the Student Weekend Activities Group, and they

organize a diverse array of activities, from rock climbing trips and hikes, to a shuttle during the ski season for those that can afford to ski once they get to the slopes. These three alone account for 20% of the RUSGA budget, according to sophomore Emily Glenn.

The other four-fifths of the budget is appropriated to different initiatives and the following clubs and student organizations: Alpha Sigma Nu, ASIA, BSA, Chemistry Club, Choices, Christian Life Community, Climbing Club, Four Wheel Driving Club, GSA, Mi Gente, NSCS, Neuroscience Club, Psychology Club, Ramblers, Romero House, RHA, SPEAK and the Peace and Justice committee. There is also an elusive club with the acronym OAP that research has uncovered very little about. All clubs are required to meet

regularly and provide community service at least once a year.

Some events sponsored by RUSGA are the Casino Night and Snow Week last semester, as well as Earth Week, Ranger Week and the Step It Up program. Past and continuing initiatives have included the rock wall in the Fitness Center, the recycling program, bike rentals, the student ID bus passes and the Sweatshop Free initiative (all shirts purchased by RUSGA are made within strict ethical guidelines).

When interviewed at the beginning of the semester, RUSGA members stated the community garden, re-opening the pool, Walker's pub, a stadium-lit track and field and a tee shirt shop as pet projects. This year we saw the breaking of the ground of the community garden, and the pub had its

grand opening and is now fully functioning on Friday and Saturday nights.

RUSGA also purchased a shuffleboard table to place in the pub, and has organized several tournaments to put it to good use. RUSGA officials have also cemented significant partnerships with local businesses to provide Regis students with discounts (for more information, see www.studentsavingsclub.com) and have opened up a variety of new off-campus dining opportunities where Ranger Bucks are accepted.

Departing RUSGA president Will Gohl would like to see RUSGA "continue the things that need to be continued, and change the things that need to be changed." Since it is clear that he

(See "A driving force" on Next Page)

A tail of courage: *A Season for Justice*

BY MICHAEL DEGREGORI

When it comes to my choices of light reading, I have a tendency to avoid autobiographies like the plague. The few that I have read I have found to be in most cases uninteresting, slow and poorly written.

However, when I received the book *A Season for Justice*, the autobiography of Alabama civil rights lawyer Morris Dees, which I received as a gift, I decided to disregard past experiences with the genre and give this one a try.

What I found was a pleasant surprise. I found the book *A Season for Justice* to be exiting, insightful and provocative from start to finish.

This book follows the life and career of Morris Dees, civil rights lawyer and founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Early on, the book covers his early childhood experiences growing up in Alabama, particularly his encounters with the racism and discrimination that were commonplace at the time.

Later in his life, Dees uses money from a successful business venture to found the Southern Poverty Law Center, a law firm specializing in cases of racial discrimination.

The cases the Center takes on inevitably bring Dees in conflict several times with multiple branches of the Ku Klux Klan, the country's most infa-

mous racial hate group.

Throughout his career, Dees has to deal with death threats, attempted assassinations and having his offices burned down. His ongoing feud with the Klan reaches its climax when the Southern Poverty Law Center brought a lawsuit directly against the United Klans of America.

A Season for Justice is a revealing book not only about the life of Morris Dees and the workings of the Southern Poverty Law Center, but also about white supremacist organizations and racial hatred in general.

Dees clearly believes that a good way of fighting these groups is to reveal their ways to the public, and this is evident in his book. In the texts he offers fascinating information concerning the organizational structure, rituals, attitudes and creeds of racial hate groups, including the intimidation tactics they employ.

A Season for Justice is an interesting and exiting book about a man and a small law firm with the courage to challenge a powerful and dangerous organization in the name of civil rights. The events that are described in the book are made even more amazing due to the fact that they really happened. I would recommend this book for anyone who has an interest in law, history or civil rights.

A real, Kick-Ass film

BY LUKE CURTIS

It's been some time since I've really had a blast at the movies. Not that there hasn't been great cinema in the past year, because there most definitely has been. What I mean is that I haven't seen any epic films in a while—films that really insist you strap into your seat before they repeatedly take you on a roller coaster.

Kick-Ass finally did that for me, and I couldn't be more pleased.

In case you haven't seen the trailer, *Kick-Ass* is a story about ordinary individuals who don superhero costumes and personas to fight crime. They don't have superpowers; they're just like you and me—except they kept going to some of those karate classes after I dropped out.

Based on a comic, *Kick-Ass* seems pretty faithful to the source itself and

one can appreciate that after seeing so many comic story adapted terribly into movies (*The Hulk*, etc).

I also appreciate the R rating on the film: it's not catering towards kids like so many other action films.

This is a movie for adults, and in that sense I loved that they brought a fun story to our level. The action was great, the composition was wonderful, the plot was decent, but overall it was an absolute blast to sit through.

Who doesn't like watching an 11-year old girl beat up thugs for a few hours? I can't complain at all. This film lived up to its name—literally. When someone asked me about it all I could utter was, "Kick-ass, dude." This will be a great start to the summer months of movies that will surely be action-packed and enjoyable.

3.5 out of 5 stars.

Horoscopes: Your last insight before summer, so you better soak it up because I know you'll miss me!

BY MISS KNOW IT ALL

Taurus - Things are a little tough right now emotionally. But keep your head up, it has to get better sometime. What goes down must come up. So just keep moving and going day by day. Plus, you at least have something to look forward to: your birthday. That should be a great day in a tough time.

Gemini - So you are having some boy/girl troubles. Do not worry about this because this is not a good week for most other people either. Take the week easy and just focus on your personal problems. You are lucky because your school load for the coming weeks are easy so you are not double stressed.

Cancer - You feel really good this week thanks to foresight and hard work. All this has paid off and now you can relax while others stress regarding school and finals. Use this time wisely, though, and get ahead on summer planning since currently you are lagging in summer plans. Girl, you really need to work on making sure you have a social life this summer!

Leo - All you really want in this coming week is to be left alone. Make sure you make time for yourself. More importantly, make sure you do not go out to socialize because you will not have fun, and you will be more of a drag than anything. Use this week to cherish yourself and revitalize your social side.

Virgo - Do not listen to those in charge of you. Be your own leader in the coming weeks. You know you are way smarter than they are, even if most of what you say is crap. At least you have the skills to blur truths and lies; this will definitely take you places.

Libra - Help others by helping yourself first. Sure, your friends are going through a difficult time, but you truly cannot help them since you are not in a good position yourself. As much as it sucks, just ignore them and focus on yourself so that you can help them at a different time.

Scorpio - Make sure you eat as much as you can before school ends. You have a lot of money left on your swipe card. Treat others to some meals and they will like you a lot more. Plus you can stock up on supplies for your car ride home when you move off campus for the summer.

Sagittarius - Stay inside! I foresee some series of unfortunate events happening to you in these coming weeks. Let me preview some of these events: You will meet a really mean, three-headed dog that will stare you down, and worms will be attracted to you and cover your new news in slim.

Capricorn - This week is going to be great for you. The past week has been stressful, but now it is all stress free until finals week. Just stay on top of all of your work and do not procrastinate, and you will stay stress free. Believe me, you should not procrastinate or else you might fail your finals! So heed my advice.

Aquarius - To be honest, you hate life right now. You are beyond stressed and you have nothing to really look forward to this summer like other people. You are not taking any long trips or doing anything fun; your summer will be full of working. At least you will be rolling in the dough if you save wisely.

Pisces - After a stressful semester, these next couple weeks will be a breeze. You worked hard all semester and it paid off. The rest of the year will go smoothly for you. Just remember to breathe a little, and that you have a ton of great things to look forward to for this summer.

Aries - Stay focused. It is close to summer but you still have a few weeks before summer is actually here. Focus on finishing all the school work you have left and finals, then enjoy you can start enjoying your summer. Just make sure you do not day dream too much about summer, or else reality will bite you in the butt.

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are
strongly recommended.

A driving force

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sees student apathy as the greatest problem we face, he probably means that this languid attitude is what needs to be changed, and the fervent energy of those involved with student government is what needs to be continued.

Outgoing vice-president Joe Vuletic nods his head at a possible problem: while those active in RUSGA may want more involvement from those not already inculcated into how the organization is run, the burden is on those already in the system to open it up to new insight. "Our biggest responsibility is being open and welcoming to everyone.... It is the most fundamentally human thing we can do." He also believes that whatever challenges we face, they are "a great way to see how we progressed, how thinking changes."

Clearly, RUSGA is important both in the scope of what effects it has on the experience of any Regis student that has partaken in its many benefits, as well as in the power its large budget can wield. Many clubs and initiatives have already been started when the organization was put to use in the way it was intended, and future Regis students will certainly be free to decide whether they judge the same activities, clubs and organizations as significant to the University experience or valid in any way.

By doing so, they will be able to, in the words of Will Gohl, "continue the things that need to be continued, and change the things that need to be changed." Only those who voice their opinion on the matter, however, will have a say in what must continue or what needs to change.

Colorado Summer Concerts

BY CIARA GALLAGHER

It's going to be a great year for concerts in Colorado. The summer is just about to kick in and there are some top national and international acts that are coming to the Denver area's concert venues. Here are some top picks for the must-see shows of the summer:

MAY

May 6

Flogging Molly, Fillmore, Denver

May 20

Eagles, Pepsi Center, Denver

May 29

Bisco Inferno - Aeroplane,
Booka Shade, Disco Biscuits,
Pnoma Trio, The Crystal
Method, The Glitch Mob, Red
Rocks, Morrison

JULY

July 3

Galactic, Red Rocks,
Morrison

July 9

Gipsy Kings, Red Rocks,
Morrison

July 10

Colorado Irish fest -
Natalie MacMaster, Grand
Amphitheater @ Clement
Park, Littleton
Modest Mouse, 1st Bank
Center, Broomfield

July 14

James Taylor, Carole

King, Pepsi Center,
Denver

July 15

OAR, Red Rocks, Morrison

July 20

Kings of Leon, Comfort
Dental Amphitheater,
Englewood
311, The Offspring,
Pepper, Red Rocks,
Morrison

July 21

Pat Benatar, REO
Speedwagon, Red Rocks,
Morrison

SEPTEMBER

September 1

John Mayer, Owl City, Red Rocks, Morrison

June 3

Carrie Underwood, 1st
Bank Center, Broomfield

June 4

John Butler Trio.
Medeski Martin and
Wood, Red Rocks,
Morrison

June 9

Sting, Red Rocks,
Morrison

June 11

Dave Alvin, Soiled Dove
Underground, Denver
MGMT, Red Rocks,
Morrison

June 12

U2, Invesco Field at Mile
High, Denver

Denver Brewgrass -

Great American Taxi, Jim
Lauderdale, Oakhurst,
Old Pearl Street, Denver

June 22

Backstreet Boys, 1st
Bank Center, Broomfield

June 23

Chicago, Doobie Brothers,
Fiddler's Green,
Englewood

June 26

Blues from the Top
Festival Feat. Ana
Popovic, The Smokin Joe
Kubek Band Feat. Bnois
King, Blues from the Top
Festival grounds
Widespread Panic, Red
Rocks, Morrison

JUNE

AUGUST

Denver

August 7

Mile High Blues Fest - Feat.
Rick Estrin and the
Nightcats, Tab Benoit, Mile
High Blues Fest Grounds,
Denver
Pretty Lights, Red Rocks,
Morrison

August 14

Mile High Music Fest -
Jack Johnson, Steve Miller,
Slightly Stoopid, Dick's
Sporting Goods Park,

August 15

Mile High Music Fest -
Dave Matthews, Z-Trip,
Weezer, Train, Jimmy Cliff,
Bassnectar, Drive By

August 29

The Black Crowes, Fillmore,
Denver

August 31

Sheryl Crow, Colbie Caillat,
Red Rocks, Morrison

COMMUNITY/CAMPUS EVENTS

Monday, April 26- Friday, April 30
Earth Week

Earth Week is a time to step back from this busy time of year and appreciate how wonderful our world is. Often times, simply taking the time to admire nature's wonders is the best inspiration to conserve and preserve our precious planet. Your RUSGA Sustainability Committee has planned a week's worth of activities to facilitate that invaluable appreciation. Please join us for all and any of our activities as we celebrate the wonderful world in which we live!

Thursday, April 29

Farewell to Laura Padgett

After many productive years in the Regis University Office of Academic Affairs, Laura Padgett is stepping down enjoy retirement with her husband, dancing, ministry and grandbaby. Please join us on April 29th at 4:30 pm in the Student Center Faculty Lounge. Laura has made many contributions to Regis University. Her commitment to the Regis Sponsored projects (SPARC), especially, enabled many students and faculty to do research which

advanced their knowledge and careers. There are many examples of students who were able to go on to graduate work because of the research the funding made possible. In addition, Laura's contributions to the Regis community went well beyond her formal responsibilities, including Irish dance, liturgical dance at many of our worship gatherings, leadership role in Alpha Sigma Nu, to say nothing of her enthusiasm for things good and lasting. She will be missed.

Tuesday, April 27- Friday, April 30
Pick Up Yearbooks

Regis College students, be sure to pick up your FREE yearbook in the Student Center!

Tuesday, April 27, 12:30-2:00 & 5:00-7:00

Wednesday, April 28, 8:30-1:00 & 5:00-7:00

Thursday, April 29, 12:30-2:00

Friday, April 30, 9:00-11:00

Questions? Contact Jackie Fulkrod, Editor-in-Chief, at fulkr661@regis.edu or Stacey Green, Advisor, at smgreen@regis.edu

Saturday, May 1

Softball Game

From 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. the Regis softball team will play the Colorado School Of Mines at the Softball Field

Sunday, May 2

Double Header Softball Games

From 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. the Regis softball team will play the Colorado School Of Mines at the Softball Field in a double header.

Monday, May 3

Summer School Grant deadline

A limited amount of need-based financial aid is available this summer through the Regis College Summer Session Grant. This grant provides a 20% remission off tuition for Regis College Summer Session undergraduate courses. Applications are available in the Office of Summer Session or at www.regis.edu/summer.

Sunday, May 2- Friday, May 7

Finals Week Library Hours

Sunday 12:30pm-3am

Monday-Thursday 7am-3am

Friday 7am-6pm

Saturday, May 8

Summer Library Hours

Sunday 12:30pm-9pm

Monday-Thursday 7:30am-10pm

Friday & Saturday 8am-6pm

Sunday, May 9

Regis College and Rueckert-Hartman College for Health Professions Spring 2010 Commencement

The Spring Commencement will be from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm in the Boettcher Commons. Student Line-up begins an 1 hour prior to each ceremony on the field North of the townhouses (A.K.A. The Beach). Guest Seating is unlimited.

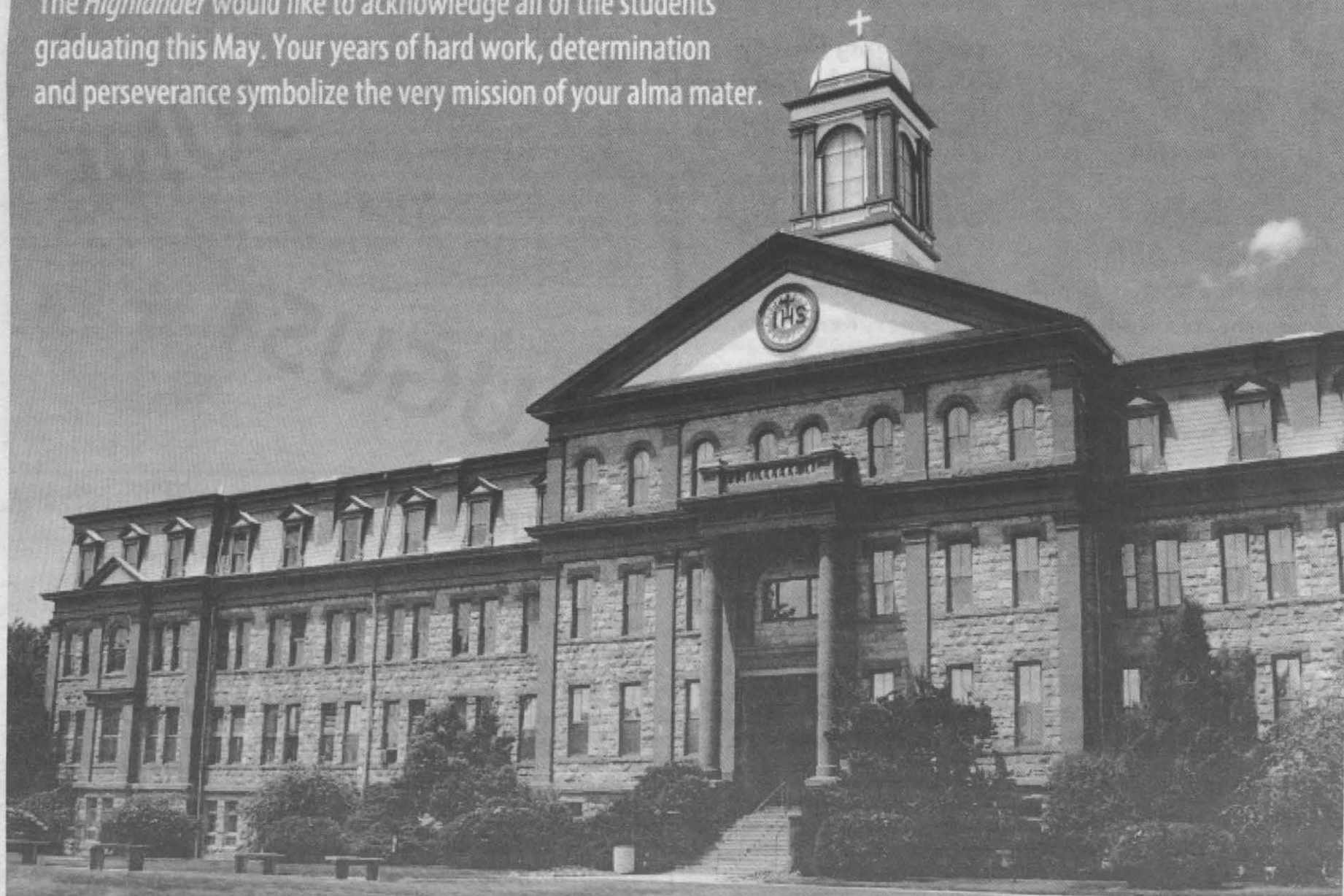
Monday, May 10

Return Mailbox Keys

If your mail key is not returned by Monday May 10th, your student account will be charged a non-returned key fee of \$50.00. You will have the opportunity to provide a forwarding address when you return your key.

The Highlander extends a special thanks and congratulations to graduating staff member *Luke Curtis* for all of his hard work and dedication!

The Highlander would like to acknowledge all of the students graduating this May. Your years of hard work, determination and perseverance symbolize the very mission of your alma mater.



Congratulations Class of 2010!